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December 23, 1988

Honorable Art Agnos Mayor San Francisco County Board of Supervisors City Hall, Room 200 San Francisco, CA 94102

Subject: Grape Boycott

The purpose of this letter is to express the City of Lodi's displeasure with and opposition to the boycott of grapes recently sanctioned by the San Francisco Eoard of Supervisors. This action is unjustified.

The politicized atmosphere in which the San Francisco Board of Supervisors apparently operates has caused its members to lose sight of a very important fact; agriculture is the number one industry in California. In the San Joaquin valley, the state's richest agricultural region, a substantial part of the total acreage farmed is devoted to the growing of grapes which you would boycott. This is an unnecessary insult to the hard working men and women whose lives and livelihoods are based on farming.

The foundation of the American economy is the agricultural abundance produced by American farmers, the people you target with your boycott. That abundance translates into a standard of living which allows Americans to spend a substantial portion of their income on leisur activities, including tourism. Unless my information is wrong, tourists a primary source of revenue for San Francisco.

Think about that when you begin targeting for economic sanctions those factions with whom you may disagree. You are indirectly but quite literally biting the hand that feeds you in this case.

Responding in kind, I will recommend to all farmers, agricultural employees, those in related industries and all who are in sympathy with the American farmers to express their feelings about your grape boycott by seeking other locations for their conventions, conferences, meetings and vacations until an apology is made by the Board of Supervisors for this unnecessary attack on an entire segment of agriculture.

Sincerely

James W. Pinkerton, Jr. Mayor

cc: California League of Cities
Editor, San Francisco Examiner